

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| Applicant's or agent's file reference MEW1726E | FOR FURTHER ACTION | |
| | see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, item 5 below. | |
| International application No. PCT/JP2004/001359 | International filing date (day/month/year) 09/02/2004 | (Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) |
| Applicant MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC WORKS, LTD. | | |

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 4 sheets.

It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

The international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

- b. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, see Box No. I.

2. **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box II).

3. **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box III).

4. With regard to the **title**,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the **abstract**,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. With regards to the **drawings**,

- a. the figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 5

as suggested by the applicant.

as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention.

- b. none of the figures is to be published with the abstract.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/JP2004/001359

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 B05B5/16 B05B5/053

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 B05B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category ° | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|--|-----------------------|
| A | EP 0 482 814 A (ICI PLC) 29 April 1992 (1992-04-29) column 12, line 54 – column 15, line 26; figure 11 ----- | 1 |
| A | EP 0 554 099 A (UNILEVER PLC ; UNILEVER NV (NL)) 4 August 1993 (1993-08-04) column 2, line 8 – column 4, line 55; figures ----- | 1 |
| A | EP 0 501 725 A (ICI PLC) 2 September 1992 (1992-09-02) column 11, line 32 – column 12, line 50; figure 7 ----- | 1 |

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

° Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *&* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

20 October 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

28/10/2004

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/JP2004/001359

| Patent document cited in search report | | Publication date | Patent family member(s) | Publication date |
|--|---|------------------|--|--|
| EP 0482814 | A | 29-04-1992 | AT 179097 T CA 2054224 A1 DE 69131153 D1 DE 69131153 T2 DK 482814 T3 EP 0482814 A1 ES 2133280 T3 GR 3030738 T3 HK 1011304 A1 JP 3307965 B2 JP 5138081 A US 5221050 A | 15-05-1999 27-04-1992 27-05-1999 18-11-1999 01-11-1999 29-04-1992 16-09-1999 30-11-1999 05-05-2000 29-07-2002 01-06-1993 22-06-1993 |
| EP 0554099 | A | 04-08-1993 | AT 145379 T AU 664226 B2 AU 3214293 A BR 9300371 A CA 2088229 A1 DE 69306008 D1 DE 69306008 T2 EP 0554099 A1 ES 2093920 T3 JP 6122481 A KR 9703447 Y1 US 5316221 A ZA 9300651 A | 15-12-1996 09-11-1995 05-08-1993 03-08-1993 01-08-1993 02-01-1997 13-03-1997 04-08-1993 01-01-1997 06-05-1994 17-04-1997 31-05-1994 29-07-1994 |
| EP 0501725 | A | 02-09-1992 | AT 202014 T AU 658859 B2 AU 1124692 A AU 671054 B2 AU 2053895 A CA 2062064 A1 DE 69231870 D1 DE 69231870 T2 DK 501725 T3 EP 1084758 A2 EP 0501725 A1 ES 2158844 T3 GR 3036300 T3 HK 1011310 A1 JP 5104035 A KR 229943 B1 PT 501725 T US 5490633 A US 5292067 A ZA 9202475 A | 15-06-2001 04-05-1995 03-09-1992 08-08-1996 10-08-1995 02-09-1992 19-07-2001 28-03-2002 01-10-2001 21-03-2001 02-09-1992 16-09-2001 31-10-2001 12-07-2002 27-04-1993 15-11-1999 31-10-2001 13-02-1996 08-03-1994 15-04-1993 |